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# Rape And The Serial Rapist

A Thesis

by

Hugh Douglas Bowman

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Abstract  
of  
Rape And The Serial Rapist  
by  
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Statement of Problem

A rape occurs in this country almost every five minutes. In addition, recidivism rates indicate that after five years, over thirty percent of rapists recommit the crime. Various studies have been conducted in an attempt to explain the behavior and motivation of the rapist. From these studies, several typologies have been developed. This study will critically analyze these typologies in an attempt to illustrate their differences, similarities, and usefulness.

Sources of Data

Research for this thesis involved the use of the Criminal Justice Periodicals Index (CJPI) and the Criminal Justice Abstracts. This search led to relevant journal articles which were found in the California State library system, and the University of California library system. Several books were also used in the completion of this work.

## Conclusions Reached

The availability of numerous typologies in no ways lessens the importance of each. In fact it is quite the contrary because it stresses the fact that both researchers and behaviorist are attempting to enhance our understanding of the sex offender. It is up to the researcher or the investigator to determine which paradigm is most appropriate for their needs.

Thomas R. Phelps, Committee Chair  
Thomas R. Phelps, Ph.D

### DEDICATION

I wish to dedicate this work to my parents. Their firm guidance and belief in me helped to build a set of values which have led me to where I am today.

I would also like to thank my wife, [REDACTED] and my two sons, [REDACTED] for their encouragement and support throughout my studies.

Thanks!

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### Statement Of The Problem

According to a Senate Majority Staff Report 100,433 rapes were reported to the FBI in 1990. That was an increase of 5,929 reported cases from 1989. That equates to one reported rape occurring almost every 5 minutes.<sup>1</sup> The experts disagree on how many rapes go unreported.

In his testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives, Special Agent Hazelwood (FBI, Behavioral Science Unit) said, only one out of every four or five rapes are reported to the police.<sup>2</sup> Dr. Mary Koss (noted researcher and co-author of the book The Rape Victim) on the other hand, in her testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee (August 29, 1990), stated the number of reported rapes is more equivalent to one out of every fifteen.<sup>3</sup> Whether the true number is closer to the former or latter is debatable. Either way, the problem is very real and the occurrence rate is very frightening. Using the 1990 figures cited earlier and the above estimates of unreported rapes, between 400,000 and 1.5 million rapes occurred in 1990.

#### Purpose

This purpose of this study is to provide a detailed review of the literature pertaining to the crime of rape and

the serial rapist. This study will first examine the crime of rape and its elements, types, styles or patterns, and the methods of operation employed by the rapist. These general elements of rape will then be applied to current information on the serial rapist to ascertain what conclusions can be drawn. This approach is necessary since there exist a basic void of detailed information on the serial rapist within the professional literature.

### Need For The Study

With the lack of relevant information on the serial rapist also goes a lack of awareness of the impact this violent offender has on our society. With the occurrence of rape on the rise in our society, the criminal justice system is going to continue to bear the burden of investigating and prosecuting the offenders. In addition, the victims are going to continue to need medical, mental, and moral support.

A cure for the violent sex offender will probably never be discovered. But a better understanding of how he operates may lend itself to identifying him quicker, thereby preventing him from striking again. Furthermore, a greater understanding of the crime will help to better understanding what the victim has experienced. This could lead to more effective treatment and recovery programs. This research will examine the crime of serial rape and the efforts being

taken to increase the knowledge of its study as it relates to the fields of criminology and victimology. In addition, it will provide new direction of study to those dedicated to furthering our knowledge of this sex offender and his crime.

#### **SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

The depth of this study will provide the reader with a clearer understanding of the crime of rape, the offender, and his victim. Detailed information will be incorporated from all disciplines relevant to this field of study. This multi-disciplinary approach will be used to ensure all avenues have been examined before any conclusions are drawn.

This study will be limited to a comprehensive review of relevant literature available on the crime of rape and the serial rapist. Unfortunately, time and funds do not allow this writer to pursue a more research oriented study on this subject. This author does however hope that by constructing a multi-disciplined comprehensive literature review, it will serve as a catalyst and motivate others to conduct further research in this area.

#### **Methodology**

This study will be confined to a literature review of the relevant writings in a wide spectrum of professional fields. All information relevant to the study of the crime, the victim, and the offender will be examined. This will help to construct a critical study which takes a broad,

comprehensive approach to furthering the understanding of this issue.

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**Rape.** Forcible sexual penetration of an unwilling victim.<sup>4</sup>

**Serial Rapist.** An individual who has committed 10 or more rapes.<sup>5</sup>

**Sexual Dysfunction.** Sexual problems experienced by the rapist in either the erective or ejaculatory process during the assault.<sup>6</sup>

**Erective Inadequacy.** Partial or complete failure to achieve and sustain an erection during intercourse.<sup>7</sup>

**Premature Ejaculation.** Ejaculation which occurs before or immediately upon penetration.<sup>8</sup>

**Ejaculatory Incompetence.** A difficulty or failure to ejaculate during intercourse.<sup>9</sup>

**Cunnilingus.** Oral contact with the female genitalia.

**Fellatio.** Taking of the penis into the mouth.

**Incest.** Sexual relations between persons who are too closely related by blood to marry.<sup>10</sup>

**Anger Rape.** A rape where sexuality becomes a hostile act.<sup>11</sup>

**Power Rape.** A rape where sexuality becomes an expression of conquest.<sup>12</sup>

**Sadistic Rape.** A rape where anger and power become eroticized.<sup>13</sup>

### ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

Chapter 2 of this study contains a comprehensive review of the literature on the crime of rape. It explores the historical perspective of rape and some of the myths which surround the offense. In addition, this chapter will examine the crime and its elements. This will include the types of rape and typologies of rapists as recognized by the leading experts in this field. This chapter will also examine the methods of operations employed by the rapist. This will be a comprehensive look at the attack methods used by the rapist to identify and overpower his victim.

In addition, this chapter will examine the motives surrounding the offense. It will also examine the childhood histories of the offenders in an attempt to better understand their development. This chapter will look at mental illness as a contributing factor, the sexual arousal of the rapist, the sexual behavior of the rapist, and sexual dysfunctions experienced by the rapist during the commission of the offense.

Chapter three will examine the current typologies which are being used to understand the behavior of the rapist. In addition, this chapter will apply a motivation classification to various typologies to illustrate their flexibility and usefulness. This chapter will conclude by examining the important issues which surround the

development of a profile for rapists. This will focus on the importance of the victim, verbal activity, and sexual behavior.

Finally, chapter 4 is a summary of the information drawn from the literature review. In addition, it contains an outline for future research which should be considered with respect to the serial rapist and his childhood history.

### Notes

- 1 U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on the Judiciary,  
Violence Against Women: The Increase of Rape in America  
1990, hearing, 102nd Cong., 1st session., 21 March 1991.  
(Washington: GPO, 1991), 2-3.
- 2 U.S. Congress, House, Committee on Government Operations,  
Serial Crime, 9 April 1986, (Washington: GPO, 1986), 58.
- 3 U.S Congress, Senate, Committee on the Judiciary,  
Violence Against Women. The Increase of Rape in America  
1990, 102nd Congress, 1st session., 21 March 1991,  
(Washington: GPO, 1991), 28.
- 4 Ronald M. Holmes, Sex Crimes (Newbury Park: SAGE  
Publications, 1991), 126.
- 5 Robert R. Hazelwood and Ann W. Burgess, "An Introduction  
to the Serial Rapist: Research by the FBI," The FBI Law  
Enforcement Bulletin, 56, no. 9 (1987): 18.



6 A. Nicholas Groth and Ann W. Burgess, "Sexual Dysfunctions During Rape," The New England Journal of Medicine 297, no. 14 (Oct. 1977): 765.

7 A. Nicholas Groth and Ann W. Burgess, "Sexual Dysfunction During Rape," The New England Journal Of Medicine 297, no. 14 (Oct. 1977): 764.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid., 765.

10 Ronald M. Holmes, 122.

11 A. Nicholas Groth and H. Jean Birnbaum, Men Who Rape: The Psychology of the Offender (New York: Plenum Press, 1979), 13.

12 Ibid.

13 Ibid.

## Chapter 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Historical Perspective

Rape has a historic background. From the days of Ancient Greece to the history pages of modern warfare, the act of rape has occurred. The word "act" was deliberately used, because during the times of ancient Greece, rape was seen as a "spoil of war" not as a crime. According to Susan Brownmiller, author of the book Against Our Will, rape was widely practiced and an expectable form of behavior.<sup>1</sup> In fact, "[f]orcible seizure was a perfectly acceptable way [for men to acquire] women, and it existed in England as late as the fifteenth century."<sup>2</sup> Warfare, both ancient and modern, has seen its share of rape; from the First Crusade, to the Russian invasion of Berlin during World War II and more recently, the Vietnam War.<sup>3</sup> Rape and war seemed to be an initiation into manhood, and went together hand-in-hand. Rape has been portrayed and, in some cases, even glamorized in movies, books, and magazines. Rape however, is a serious crime in which victims are both physically and mentally violated and abused.

### Types of Rape

According to Bopp and Vardalis, there are "two generally recognized types of rape: acquaintance rape; and rape by strangers."<sup>4</sup> Acquaintance rape is an act of rape committed by someone known to the victim. Conversely, stranger rape is a rape where the perpetrator is a complete stranger. They further state evidence from a ten year study conducted between 1973-1982 and "concluded that 68 percent of all rapes and attempted rapes were committed by strangers, while 32 percent involved assailants known to the victim."<sup>5</sup>

### Rape Patterns

The next area of examination is that of the sexual behavior pattern of the rapist. Dr. Groth in his book Men Who Rape, outlined "[t]hree basic patterns of rape...; (1) the anger rape, in which sexuality becomes a hostile act; (2) the power rape, in which sexuality becomes an expression of conquest; and (3) the sadistic rape, in which anger and power become eroticized."<sup>6</sup> It should be noted that Groth drew from a journal article he co-authored with A. W. Burgess and L. L. Holmstrom to formulate his typology. In the original article, there were only two types of rape, the anger rape and the power rape.

The anger rape was also subcategorized into two classes, anger-retaliation and anger-excitation. "The anger-retaliation rapist commits rape as an expression of his hostility and rage towards women. His motive is revenge and

his aim is degradation and humiliation."<sup>7</sup> On the other hand, "the anger-excitation rapist finds pleasure in the suffering of his victim. He is sadistic and his aim is to punish, hurt, and torture his victim. His anger is eroticized."<sup>8</sup>

The power rape was subcategorized into two classes, power-assertive and power-reassurance.<sup>9</sup> "The power - assertive rapist regards rape as an expression of his virility and mastery and dominance."<sup>10</sup> "The power-reassurance rapist commits the offense in an effort to resolve disturbing doubts about his sexual adequacy and masculinity."<sup>11</sup> In an effort to better distinguish between the patterns, this paper will also examine the revised patterns Groth developed for his book.

In his research, Groth described anger rape as "a means of expressing and discharging feelings of pent-up anger and rage. The assault is characterized by physical brutality."<sup>12</sup> We can see from this description that this rape pattern possess a high degree of physical force and violence. This type rape would leave the victim not only emotionally injured but probably physically harmed. He further states that typically the anger rape is more impulsive than premeditated.<sup>13</sup> So the anger rape is characterized as impulsive and violent. Since his rapes are impulsive, his victim selection can be characterized as "someone who is immediately available".<sup>14</sup>

In describing power rape, he says that "it is not the offender's desire to harm his victim but to possess her sexually. Sexuality becomes a means of compensating for underlying feelings of inadequacy.... His goal is sexual conquest, and he uses only the amount of force necessary to accomplish this objective."<sup>15</sup> We can see from this description just how different the anger rape is from the power rape. The intent of power rape is not to physically injure but more to control the victim. Power rape can either be premeditated or opportunistic. The victim selection can be characterized as someone who is available, accessible, and vulnerable.<sup>16</sup> The mental picture we draw in our mind of rape probably most resembles the power rapist. A man intent on having his way and trying to prove his manhood. Television, movies, and some literature has probably helped to instill this image in our minds.

The next pattern of rape could come straight from the pages of a book like The Silence of the Lambs; it is that of Sadistic Rape. In this "pattern of rape, both sexuality and aggression become fused into a single psychological experience know as sadism. There is a sexual transformation of anger and power so that aggression itself becomes eroticized."<sup>17</sup> In this patter the rapist actually receives their gratification from deliberately inflicting pain and suffering to the victim. "In contrast to the anger rapist, the sexual sadist's offenses are fully premeditated."<sup>18</sup>

This rapist is the most dangerous and violent sex offender one can encounter. It will be noted that Groth has taken the subcategory of anger-excitation and developed it into its own unique pattern of violence.

In his study of more than 500 offenders over more than a decade, he concluded that "more than half (55 percent) of the cases referred to us were primarily power rapes. Approximately 40 percent were anger rapes, and about 5 percent were sadistic rapes."<sup>19</sup> We must keep in mind that his study was of convicted rapist and was conducted some time ago. It will be interesting however, to apply his findings to the serial rapist when we begin our study of them.

### **Methods of Approach**

The next area of focus will be the methods of attack. How is the rapist able to seize his victim? For insight into this we will examine the "methods of approach" as outline in the Hazelwood and Warren study of the serial rapist. While the focus of the research is the behavior of the serial rapist, the methods of approach used by the criminal and described therein, are widely excepted as those used most frequently by rapist.

The first is the "Con" approach and it "involves subterfuge and is predicated on the rapist ability to interact with women."<sup>20</sup> The rapist may pretend to be an old friend or simply be lost and in need of directions.

Regardless of what ploy is used, the rapist will try and "con" his victim in to a false sense of security. They will then strike when the time is right.

The next form of behavior is the "Blitz" approach. "In the blitz approach, the rapist uses a direct, injurious physical assault which subdues and physically injures the victim. The attacker may use chemicals or gases but most frequently uses his ability to physically overpower a woman."<sup>21</sup>

The last method is the "Surprise" approach. "The surprise approach, which involves the assailant waiting for the victim or approaching her after she is sleeping, presupposes that the rapist has targeted or preselected his victim through unobserved contact...."<sup>22</sup> The surprise attack is not characterize by physical injury.

James LeBeau has also outlined three general methods used by the rapist to approach victims. "The first method is contingent upon the participants having an existent intimate relationship. The assailant simply uses the relationship as the basis for gaining access to the victim."<sup>23</sup>

The next method of advance is "capturing the victim". In this approach the rapist makes an effort to interact with his victim.<sup>24</sup> This method is very similar to Hazlewood's "con" approach in which the rapist tries to establish a relationship while waiting for the right time to strike.

The last method of approach described by LeBeau is the "blitz rape". In this form of access, the "rape occurs out of the blue and without prior interaction between the assailant and victim."<sup>25</sup> Again this approach is similar to Hazelwood's with one very distinct difference. LeBeau uses burglary as an example for this type rape where as Hazelwood would categorize burglary as the uses of the "surprise approach".

While both LeBeau's and Hazelwood's methods are similar, there are some distinct differences. LeBeau's methods is more general and broad, encompassing both the "Acquaintance" and "Stranger" types of rape. Where as Hazelwood's is more aimed at "Stranger" rape. For this research, Hazelwood's methods appear to be of better use.

#### The Motive

In 1977, Nicholas Groth, Ann Burgess and Lynda Holmstrom laid the ground work for what has widely become accepted as the patterns of rape.<sup>26</sup> They claimed that "in all cases of forcible rape three components are present: power, anger, and sexuality."<sup>27</sup> It was their belief that sex was not the underlying motivational factor. They concluded that "Rape... is a pseudo-sexual act, a pattern of sexual behavior that is concerned much more with status, aggression, control, and dominance than with sensual pleasure or sexual satisfaction".<sup>28</sup> In this initial study they outline the typologies of power-assertive, power-



reassurance, anger-retaliation, and anger-excitation. It was from this study that Groth redefined the typologies to Anger Rape, Power Rape, and Sadistic Rape.<sup>29</sup>

As William Bopp and James Vardalis stated, Groth's typology of the rapist "has become dogma in the field."<sup>30</sup> They however, would like to see the addition of a fourth category entitled the opportunistic rapist. According to them, this is a rapist in which sex is the motivating factor. While other authors such as Cohen, et al.,<sup>31</sup> Liska and Roth<sup>32</sup>, Scully and Marolla,<sup>33</sup> have expanded on the patterns of rape; they have done little more than broaden Groth's initial works. Richard T. Rada in the "Classification of the Rapist" has set forth a list of clinical classifications. His classification system is based not on the rapist social role or behavior, but on the rapist personality factors.<sup>34</sup> It should be noted that many typologies exist, but none seem to have gained the acceptance and notoriety of the Groth paradigm.

While those researching this topic do not necessarily agree on how general or specific a typology should be, they do agree that the act of rape combines both of sexuality and aggression. It is interesting to note that Sigmund Freud's drive theory "claims that behavior is determined by two primary drives: sex and aggression."<sup>35</sup> It could be that somewhere in the stages of personality development that a

trauma occurs which would propel one toward a propensity to sex crimes.

### Childhood History

Studies have been conducted on the childhood history of rapist which would suggest this can be true. In 1979 Nicholas Groth conducted a study on sexual trauma in both rapists and child molesters.<sup>36</sup> He found that out of the 348 men studied, 106 (31 percent) had experienced some form of sexual trauma. Fifty of these subjects were classified as rapists. Of the rape subjects 21 (42 percent) were victimized while between the ages of 7-12. Thirty-five (70 percent) were assaulted by family members and 19 (38 percent) were assaulted by adult females. While the actual percentage of rapists who experienced sexual trauma appears to be low (29.5 percent), there still appears to be a trend. This is corroborated by other studies.

Cohen, et al., while they offer no empirical data for their conclusion did state "[i]n a striking number of such offenders, there is a history of prepubertal or postpubertal sexual traumata with older women, frequently the mother."<sup>37</sup> These findings are consistent with those of Groth.

More recently and directly related to the serial rapists, Hazelwood and Warren found that out of the 41 serial rapists interviewed in their study, 31 (76 percent) had been sexually abused as children.<sup>38</sup> This study was expanded on by McCormack, et al., when they concluded that

of the 31 subjects reporting childhood sexual abuse, "over half were victims of incest. All incestuous experiences occurred before puberty [5 to 10 years of age], and the majority of the experiences were protracted in nature [1 to 9 years]."<sup>39</sup> These findings have a dramatic impact when contrasted with the findings of Burgess, et al.,<sup>40</sup> which determined that only 16 percent of the general male population had experienced sexual abuse.

In a related study, Jon Conte found a significant increase in the following personality traits displayed by sexually abused children over that of nonabused children: depression, repressed anger/hostility, fear, aggression, and inability to form/maintain relationships. He concludes by stating that "[s]ome victims who have not recovered from the trauma of a destructive relationship may try to recreate it again and again in hopes of gaining some mastery over it or having it end differently than in their childhood."<sup>41</sup> This need to recreate or reenact the traumatic event was also described in McCormack, et al., they found that "[j]ust over one-half of the 41 offenders (51.6 percent) had direct examples of reenactment, usually with younger children, when they themselves were pre-adolescent."<sup>42</sup>

#### **Mental Illness As A Factor**

Other studies have sought to determine if mental illness could be a contributing factor towards developing a propensity toward rape. In 1977 Groth and Burgess conducted

a study which concluded that of the 133 rapists they studied, fifty-three (40 percent) suffered from various personality disorders. "Twenty-two (16 percent) were diagnosed as borderline personalities, and thirteen (10 percent) showed clinical evidence of some psychotic process operating at the time of the offense."<sup>43</sup> In his research, Groth reiterated these findings and added that neurotic reactions have the lowest accounting (3 percent).<sup>44</sup>

These findings closely resemble the findings of Henn, Herjanic, and Vanderpearl. They studied 239 individuals charged with a sexual offense and concluded that "[m]ajor mental illness was rare in this group."<sup>45</sup> In their study, 67 of the subjects were involved in rape or attempted rape, of these less than fifteen percent suffered from psychosis. They found that the majority (75 percent) were predominantly diagnosed as suffering from a personality disorder. Richard T. Rada in his study found that the category of the psychotic rapist "is not large, less than 10 percent of all rapist...."<sup>46</sup> It appears to be evident that the concept of the psychotic rapist is more myth than reality. Scully and Marolla reaffirm this in their research.<sup>47</sup>

### **Rape: A Sex Crime**

Rape is a sex crime and it is necessary to examine the sexual aspects of rape in an effort to better profile the serial rapist. This research will now examine sexual arousal, sexual behavior, and the sexual dysfunctions of the

rapist. This approach allows for greater understanding of the offense and offender. By examining what it is that arouses the rapist, then the motivation for the crime becomes clearer. By exploring the sexual behavior and dysfunctions of the rapist, a better psychological profile of this category of behavior is provided.

### The Sexual Arousal of the Rapist

Sexual arousal has been the subject of a number of studies. In 1977 one of the most noteworthy studies was published. Abel, et al., studied the sexual arousal of thirteen rapists and seven nonrapist. They concluded that "rapists respond to both rape and mutually enjoyable intercourse scenes while non-rapist only respond to mutually enjoyable intercourse scenes."<sup>48</sup> In their study they used explicit stimuli of non-sexual aggression, rape, and mutually enjoyable intercourse. They found that in the non-rapist, non-sexual aggression produced very little arousal. In the rapist, that non-sexual aggression produced a slight response. While in the sadistic rapist it produced a great response.<sup>49</sup>

Barbaree, et al., criticized the Abel, et al., study because the stimuli used was tailored to closely resemble the style of the rapist.<sup>50</sup> They conducted their own research using the same stimuli through it. In their conclusion they stated that their findings "...agreed with the results of the earlier study reported by Abel, et

al.(1977)."<sup>51</sup> R. L. Scott conducted an analysis of the need system of the male rapist.<sup>52</sup> In his conclusion he stated that "...two cases could be cited as particularly classic examples of the need system suggested by the results of this study."<sup>53</sup> In both case histories, the subjects interviewed stated that they could only become sexually aroused when intercourse was accompanied by aggression and violence.<sup>54</sup> While the previous researchers may not agree upon the methods of research, they do suggest that aggression plays a role in the sexual arousal of the rapist.

A related study by Hazelwood, et al., concluded that in the 41 serial rapists studied, victim resistance was directly related to the sexual arousal of the offender.<sup>55</sup> In addition, it was found that the level of resistance prolonged the time the offender remained with his victim. It had been noted in their study that the overall pleasure level experienced by the serial rapist was surprisingly low (3.67 on an 11 point scale).<sup>56</sup>

#### **The Sexual Behavior of the Rapist**

To further explore the sexual components of rape, it becomes necessary to examine the specific sexual act. This is necessary not only to better understand the offender but the victim as well. As Holmstrom and Burgess suggest, sometimes the nature of the act can lead juries not to believe the victim.<sup>57</sup> In a study published in 1980, they found vaginal intercourse occurred in 94 percent of the

single assailant rape cases studied (total cases =78). Fellatio was next at 17 percent, followed by breast pulling/biting (9 percent), cunnilingus (8 percent), manual touching of victim's genitals (6 percent), anal intercourse (4 percent), and objects inserted into victim's vagina (1 percent). The importance of this study is accented when you consider that it was the victims who were studied rather than the rapists. Holmstrom and Burgess derived their findings from interviews with 115 adult, adolescent, and child rape victims.<sup>58</sup>

The previous research study takes on even greater importance when compared with the findings of Hazelwood, et al.. Hazelwood, et al., found that in their study of the serial rapist that the frequency of vaginal intercourse was only 74.4 percent. Fellatio occurred 43.9 percent of the time followed by anal intercourse (20.5 percent), and object insertion (7.7 percent). Without knowing the history of the offenders in the Holmstrom and Burgess study, the findings must be accepted cautiously. Differences could be attributed to rapist types, styles, boredom with repetition, or cultural background.

On the cultural aspect, Holmstrom and Burgess found "...that, with only one exception, all acts of forced cunnilingus were performed by lone white assailants."<sup>59</sup> In a study conducted by Shaalan, et al., on rape in Egypt, they found that 67.63 percent of the cases involved anal

intercourse. They concluded that "...it is assumed that a greater intent of criminality is required to embark on attacking virginity by hymen rupture than for any other act of sexual assaultiveness."<sup>60</sup> It could be that cultural influences determine somewhat both rapist typologies and behavior during the offense.

The sexual act becomes important when profiling the rapist. Clues are found in the sexual acts performed and can provide valuable insight about the rapist. For instance, it can assist in determining the type of rapist being studied. Groth has said of the anger rapist, "[o]ften this type offender forces the victim to submit to or perform additional sexual acts that he may regard as particularly degrading, such as sodomy or fellatio."<sup>61</sup> The sexual act can also help us ascertain whether or not the rapist suffers from a sexual dysfunction.

#### **Sexual Dysfunctions and the Rapist**

In a study conducted in 1977 by Groth and Burgess, it was found that of the 133 offenders researched, only 25 percent showed no evidence of a sexual dysfunction occurring during rape.<sup>62</sup> In a follow up study, they discovered that of the sexual dysfunctions, erectile inadequacy occurred most often (16 percent), followed by retarded ejaculation (15 percent), and premature ejaculation (3 percent).<sup>63</sup> This takes on a significant importance when you consider that according to Masters and Johnson, only one percent of the



male population under 35 years old report erectile impotence and only one in seven hundred men of all ages are effected by retarded ejaculation.<sup>64</sup> Groth and Burgess also report, "practically none of these offenders reported similar physiologic dysfunctions in their nonassaultive, consenting sexual relations."<sup>65</sup>

There is another item of importance to the police community. In the Groth and Burgess study, it was found that of the 69 victims for which there was complete data, sperm was present in only 32 of the cases. Groth noted, "[i]t is important to recognize, therefore, that in a large number of cases, sperm may not be present because of the high incidence of sexual dysfunction exhibited by rapists during the assault."<sup>66</sup> Therefore, a lack of sperm does not suggest that a rape did not occur.

Hazelwood and Warren, in their study on serial rapists, reached conclusions consistent with Groth and Burgess. They found that serial rapists reported sexual dysfunction occurring in 38 percent of their first rapes, 39 percent of their middle rapes, and 35 percent of their last rapes.<sup>67</sup> As Hazelwood mentions in a related study, "[t]he occurrence of offender sexual dysfunction [and the means he uses to overcome the dysfunction], coupled with an investigative understanding of the dysfunction, may provide valuable information about the unidentified rapist."<sup>68</sup>

Notes

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## Chapter 3

### Analysis

One of the basic observations one can make about rapists is that they are not all alike. Similar acts are performed for different reasons or different acts serve similar purposes.... We have found that either power or anger dominates and that rape, rather than being primarily an expression of sexual desire, is, in fact, the use of sexuality to express issues of power and anger. Rape, then, is a pseudo-sexual act, a pattern of sexual behavior that is concerned much more with status, aggression, control, and dominance than sexual pleasure or sexual satisfaction. It is sexual behavior in the service of nonsexual needs and in this sense, is clearly a sexual deviation.<sup>1</sup>

This statement made by Groth, et al., clearly illustrates that rape is not a sex crime but a crime that involves sex. It is important to understand this. Since we may never be able to answer the question of why men rape, we can only seek to understand their behavior. This behavior involves a multitude of actions, from characteristics of attack, to physical behavior and victim verbalization. All these behavior traits pieced together help to profile the individual rapist.

There have been a number of typologies developed by researchers to describe the behavior of the rapist. All of these typologies share certain characteristics and in some cases the same labels. All are ways of categorizing behavior in an attempt to profile the rapist. This behavior

profile is an important key to both the investigator and the researcher in understanding why rapists act in certain ways.

Hazelwood uses a unique approach when profiling rapists. According to him, the first objective in profiling a rapist is to determine whether the behavior can be classified as selfish or pseudo-unselfish.<sup>2</sup> The selfish behavior rapist is only concerned with himself. He neither desires nor wants the victim to become involved with the rape. "Instead, he uses the victim in much the same way an actor in a play uses a prop. He is verbally and sexually self-oriented and physically abusive."<sup>3</sup>

Hazelwood further states that the selfish rapist is unconcerned about the welfare of the victim. Her complaints of pain or discomfort will be ignored. This type of rapist seeks to humiliate his victim. Hazelwood states that often the victim is forced to perform anilingus, fellatio, or masturbate. "The sequence of the sexual acts is more likely to be anal assault followed by fellatio than the reverse."<sup>4</sup> Hazelwood also states that seldom will the selfish rapist engage in kissing with his victim. This suggest a deliberate attempt to distance himself from his victim and dehumanize the act in much the same manner as prostitutes do with their clients.

The pseudo-unselfish rapist on the other hand believes that his concern

... for the victim's comfort and welfare will win her over and hopes that she will 'realize' he is not a bad person at all. Therefore, he attempts to 'involve' her in the act, both sexually and verbally. He needs the victim to enjoy (or pretend to enjoy) the activity, as this feeds his need for acceptance and power and fulfills his fantasy of the victim's willing compliance.<sup>5</sup>

Hazelwood's unique approach is a first step in understanding the motives behind the rape. The next step is to begin to apply various typologies to the motive. Hazelwood prescribes to the Groth paradigm as was modified by the FBI's Behavior Science Unit. However, this first step could be applied to any of the more recognized typologies. This will be demonstrated by using not only the Groth paradigm but also that developed by Knight and Prentky.

According to Groth and associates study, the "anger rape" is characterized by "...rage, contempt, and hatred for [the] victim by beating her, sexually assaulting her, and forcing her to perform or submit to additionally degrading acts."<sup>6</sup> Groth further stated that the anger rapist used profane and abusive language which is consistent with Hazelwood's description of the selfish rapist.

This is not to say that only the anger rapist can be called selfish. On the contrary, the power-assertive rapist's behavior can also be classified as selfish. According to Groth, "[t]he power-assertive rapist regards rape as an expression of his virility and mastery and

dominance. He feels entitled to "take it" or sees sexual dominance as a way of keeping ... women in line."<sup>7</sup>

In using both the Groth paradigm and Hazelwood's motivational classifications, the only pseudo-unselfish rapist is the power-reassurance rapist. This rapist according to Groth "...commits the offense in an effort to resolve disturbing doubts about his sexual adequacy and masculinity. He wants to place women in a helpless, controlled position in which she cannot refuse or reject him, thereby shoring up his failing sense of worth and adequacy."<sup>8</sup>

Groth presented a case study which serves as a good example of the pseudo-unselfish rapist. In it a man named only as Mr. "C" pleaded guilty to six counts of rape which he committed within a 2-month period. In all cases, "[h]e kidnapped the women, tied them up, forced them to submit to intercourse, and then questioned them as to whether he was as good as other sex partners they had had."<sup>9</sup> This verbalization as demonstrated by Mr. "C", is consistent with Hazelwood's description of the pseudo-unselfish rapist. In this case, Mr. "C" was obviously attempting to involve his victim verbally by ascertaining their approval and enjoyment of the "act".

Hazelwood's motivational classification can also be applied to the taxonomy developed by Knight and Prentky and this further demonstrates its flexibility and usefulness.

Knight and Prentky have also developed four subtypes of the rapist. These are: the compensatory rapist, the exploitative rapist, the displaced anger rapist, and the sadistic rapist.<sup>10</sup> The subtypes share many of the same characteristics of the Groth paradigm and are applicable to Hazelwood's motivational classifications.

According to Knight and Prentky, the

...compensatory subtype hinges upon the presence of verbalizations (e.g., those aimed at self-reassurance and self-affirmation) and behaviors that reflect, albeit in a distorted fashion, a person-oriented relationship with the victim. Such a relationship is evidenced by the offender's apparent concern for the victim's welfare, comfort, and 'enjoyment' of sexual 'experience'.<sup>11</sup>

The behavior of the compensatory rapist as described by Knight and Prentky is consistent with that of the pseudo-unselfish rapist as described by Hazelwood. In addition, it shows a marked resemblance with the power-reassurance rapist as outlined in the Groth paradigm. Both involve a need by rapist to overcome low self-esteem and a prevailing feeling of inadequacy. Both types involve the rapist's own fantasy that the victim is enjoying the act which reinforces the masculinity of the criminal.

On the other hand, the exploitative rapist makes no attempt to establish a relationship with his victim. To him, "[t]he victim seems to have little or no psychological meaning to the offender, and represents, hypothetically, a masturbatory object."<sup>12</sup> This depersonalization of the

victim is also consistent with Hazelwood's selfish rapist and is reminiscent of Groth's power-assertive rapist.

The one striking difference between the Knight and Prentky typology and that of Groth's is that the exploitative rapist uses only the force necessary to gain compliance while the power-assertive rapist uses moderate to excessive levels of force during the commission of the rape. In both of the typologies however, the rapist shows a heartless indifference towards the welfare and comfort of the victim.

The displaced anger rapist "... engages in sexual behavior as a means of physically harming, degrading, or defiling the victim."<sup>13</sup> Knight and Prentky describe this individual as a misogynist. They state that he uses physical force clearly in excess of what is needed to gain the compliance of his victim. In addition, his intent is to "...demean, degrade, or humiliate the victim;"<sup>14</sup> be it through physical or verbal means.

This description is consistent with Hazelwood's selfish rapist. It is also similar to Groth's anger-retaliation rapist. In Groth's paradigm, the anger-retaliation rapist "... commits rape as an expression of his hostilities and rage towards women. His motive is revenge and his aim is degrading and humiliation."<sup>15</sup>

Both of these typologies share the common elements of extreme violence, hostility toward women, and the desire on



the part of the rapist to degrade and humiliate his victim. Both typologies describe this kind of rapist as impulsive. "The offender often attributes his offense to an 'uncontrollable impulse' and the assault usually follows some precipitating event involving a wife, girlfriend, or mother."<sup>16</sup>

While both typologies state that this type of rapist is extremely violent, the aggression is of a non-sexual nature. Object insertion and concentration on a particular body part are not characteristics of this rapist category in either the Groth, or Knight and Prenky typologies. In addition, the level of violence does not significantly effect the sexual gratification of this rapist type.

The next type rapist classification according to Knight and Prenky is the sadistic rapist. His behavior is described as having an expression of sexually sadistic fantasies.

The assignment of a sadistic subtype is made when level of aggression or violence clearly exceeds what is necessary to force the compliance of victim and there is explicit, unambiguous evidence that aggression is eroticized: either it is apparent that the offender derives sexual pleasure from the injurious acts or that the injurious acts are focused on the part of the body that have sexual significance.<sup>17</sup>

This behavior of this rapist type is consistent with Hazelwood's description of the selfish rapist. In addition, it reveals great similarity to Groth's anger-excitation rapist. In both typologies the aggression is eroticized and

the aim of the rapist is directed more towards torture of the victim rather than to sexual satisfaction.

According to Hazelwood<sup>18</sup> and Holmes<sup>19</sup>, this type of rapist takes great care in planning and executing his crime. Planning becomes a part of the sexual fantasy and reality soon merges with his fantasy. They also state that this type of rapist will continue to commit the crime until he is caught. Holmes states that in an interview with Ted Bundy, a sadistic serial rapist, Bundy said the following: "A large number of serial killings is simply an attempt to silence the victim. A simple but effective means of elimination."<sup>20</sup> This type of rapist is without a doubt the most dangerous of all.

As one can readily observe, the Hazelwood motivation classification can be utilized with either of the typologies which have been analyzed. The usefulness of the selfish and pseudo-unselfish classification becomes important when profiling the rapist. It is important to know that all typologies are an attempt to describe and characterize the behavior and motivation of the rapist.

The availability of numerous typologies in no ways lessens the importance of each. In fact it is quite the contrary because it stresses the fact that both researchers and behaviorist are attempting to enhance our understanding of the sex offender. As a searchers or investigator, it is

up to us to determine which typology is most appropriate to our needs.

For instance, the FBI uses a typology which is a modification of the Groth paradigm.<sup>21</sup> The author Ronald M. Holmes, on the other hand, uses the Knight and Prenky paradigm in his profiling.<sup>22</sup> One could easily debate the issue of validity and reliability for each of these typologies and merely reach tentative conclusions. The important things to remember when profiling the rapist is that these typologies are available and each is important in classifying the behavior and motivation of the rapist.

The one thing that experts agree on is that the single most important key to profiling a rapist is the victim. It is through the victim that valuable information is gained. It is the job of the investigator or researcher to ask the appropriate questions. These questions should be aimed at the physical behavior characteristics as well as verbal and non-verbal behavioral characteristics.

Verbalization between the victim and the offender can be a major key in ascertaining a specific motivation behind an offense. According to Hazelwood, "...it [is] extremely important to elicit from the victim everything the rapist said and the manner-tone and attitude-in which it is said."<sup>23</sup> From this procedure one can then apply the Holmstrom and Burgess eleven major themes to rapist conversations with the victim. Those being "threats,

orders, confidence lines, personal inquiries of the victims sexual 'enjoyment,' soft-sell departures, sexual put-downs, possession of women, and taking property from another male."<sup>24</sup>

Based on what is said to the victim and the major theme of the verbal activity, one can then determine whether the rapist is a selfish or pseudo-unselfish offender. A pseudo-unselfish rapist would likely use words which are less threatening, even making inquiries as to whether the victim is experiencing any pain or discomfort and offering apologies for the offense. The selfish rapist on the other hand will use profanity and abusive language and in some cases derogatory language.

Hazelwood states that it is important to evaluate what the rapist is forcing the victim to say during the victimization. "By determining what, if anything, the victim was forced to say, the interviewer is made aware of what it is that gratifies the rapist and gains insight into the needs (motivation) of the offender."<sup>25</sup> He suggests that such phrases as "I love you" or "make love to me" suggest a need for affirmation or ego-building. As where, if the victim is forced to beg or plea for her life then it is suggested that the rapist is a sadist. If the victim is forced to use derogatory or demeaning phrases then the crime is the work of an anger rapist.<sup>26</sup>

From here the next step should be to examine the sex acts which have occurred and the order of occurrence. Holmstrom and Burgess outline the various kinds of sex acts which are predominate during a rape.<sup>27</sup> The motivation for each offense becomes clearer when all this information is evaluated.

In the example which was previously used, if anal sex preceded fellatio, then it is suggests a strong desire by the rapist to degrade or punish the victim. Hazelwood suggests that acting outs such as kissing, fondling, and cunnilingus are used in acting out the fantasies of the rapist.<sup>28</sup> This suggests that the rapist has a need for affection and ego-building.

Sexual acts combined with object insertion, burning, and biting strongly suggest the work of a sadistic rapist. As where, acts such as urinating on the victim and forcing the victim to lick the body and anus of the rapist once again point to the work of a rapist who is intent on degrading and humiliating his victim.

One must also be mindful that sexual dysfunction exhibited during rape is not uncommon. Sometimes the sexual dysfunction impacts the sex act which is occurring. One such example is that of conditional impotence which was mentioned by Groth and Burgess. "This type of impotence is resolved only when, in some cases, the offender forces his victim to stimulate him manually or orally and, in others, when the

victim responds to the assaults with resistance and struggle."<sup>29</sup> It is important that researchers not ignore sexual dysfunction when compiling the profile because this can enhance insight into the motivation and psychological functioning of the offender.

### Notes

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- 19 Ronald M. Holmes, Profiling Violent Crimes: An Investigative Tool (Newbury Park: Sage Publications, 1989) 122.



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## **CHAPTER 4**

### **SUMMARY, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND CONCLUSION**

#### **SUMMARY**

Rape is a crime of violence, force, and sexuality. It can be motivated by anger, power, or sadistic drives. The motivation for the offense often determines the degree to which the victim is injured. Examination of the level and type of force and violence used can provide valuable clues as to the typology of the individual rapist.

The power-rapist for instance does not seek to harm his victim but to possess her sexually. The anger-retaliation rapist aims to humiliate and degrade his victim. His violence comes in the form of rage and hostility and is often carried to the extreme. In the case of the anger-excitation rapist, the violence takes the form of torture. This rapist's violent actions are eroticized. He finds his sexual pleasure in the suffering of his victim.

Regardless of the motivation for the offense, the one element all rapes have in common is sexuality. In most cases, sexuality is a secondary motive. It is the vehicle used by rapists to express other emotions; those being anger and power. A careful examination of the sexual aspects of the offense can also lend valuable information as to the typology of the offender.

For instance, the power rapist will often show concern for his victim's welfare. Whereas the anger-retaliation rapist will force the victim to perform acts which are intended to degrade and humiliate his victim. The anger-excitation rapist will perform acts intended to mutilate and torture.

This knowledge coupled with information on the verbalization and possible sexual dysfunctions of a rapist, provide the information necessary to develop a detailed profile. With this profile investigators can predict which rapists are most likely to increase in levels of violence and pose the most danger to the community-at-large.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following framework has been developed for a future study. This author was unable to conduct same due to time and funding constraints. It is hoped that another researcher may be able to examine the theory contained therein. Research such as this will surely increase our knowledge and understanding of the serial rapist.

#### **Theoretical Framework of Study**

This study is designed to examine the theory that childhood abuses/experiences determine the typology of a rapist. The following theory will be tested.

1. Rape is a crime of violence not desire.
2. All forcible rapes consist of three components: power, anger, and sexuality.

3. Based on the sexual behavior exhibited during the crime, the rapist can be typed into the Groth paradigm with a high degree of accuracy.

4. The majority of known serial rapists have experienced some form of abuse in their childhood (physical, psychological, sexual, emotional trauma).

5. Therefore, it stands to reason that there exists a logical link between the form of abuse experienced by the serial rapist and the behavior characteristics he exhibits during the crime.

#### HYPOTHESIS

The hypothesis to be tested is that the behavior characteristics of the serial rapist type will be present in the abuse found in their childhood. This can further be subdivided using the Groth and associates paradigm.<sup>1</sup> The following is a list of each of the hypotheses and their subcategories.

#### THE POWER RAPE HYPOTHESIS

It is hypothesized that men who have experienced abuses that have caused them to feel inadequate in both their sexual and nonsexual areas of life will develop into a power rapist. The abuses these individuals have experienced will have lowered their self-image and self-esteem. These type abuses will predominantly be, but are not limited to, psychological abuses.

Since control of the victim is the aim of the power rapist, it stands to reason that the abuse experienced by the rapist was such that he felt he had no control over its outcome. Power rapists can further be subdivided based on whether the major goal in the offense was assertion or reassurance.

The Power-Assertive Hypothesis. Virility, mastery, and dominance are the prime characteristics of this type of rape. This type rapist will have experienced a form of abuse in which he was forced into submission. The abuse will have left him with very little sense of identity, feeling inadequate, and ineffective. It is through the commission of rape that he wishes to assert his own dominance.

The Power-Reassurance Hypothesis. This type rapist is characterized as having disturbing doubts about his sexual adequacies and masculinity. His abuse will have left him feeling helpless, rejected and with a failing sense of worth and adequacy. His abuse could have come in the form of a dominant mother who took her frustration with men out on her son. It could also come from having experienced an abusive homosexual relationship that has made him unsure of his own masculinity. He rapes to resolve the disturbing doubts he experiences about himself.

### THE ANGER RAPE HYPOTHESIS

It is hypothesized that men who have experienced abuses that are characterized as violent, physical, or left them filled with rage will develop into an anger rapist. This type abuse will have left the rapist filled with anger, rage, contempt, and hatred. These feelings are expressed toward his victim during the commission of the crime.

The aim of this rapist is to vent rage and retaliate for perceived wrongs he has suffered at the hands of women. His crimes are characterized by physically violent acts as well as acts intended to degrade his victim. The anger he feels towards his past is displaced onto his victim. The anger rapist can be subdivided into two categories base on whether the motive is derived from conscious rage or pleasure.

The Anger-Retaliation Hypothesis. This individual expresses deep rage and hostility towards his victim. His motive is revenge and his aim is to degrade and humiliate his victim. His abuse will have left him with hostile feelings toward females. Quite likely, his abuser will have been a female. The abuse will have been such that it left him with a deep seated anger. It probably came in the form of physical abuses or psychological torment.

The Anger-Excitation Rape Hypothesis. This type rapist finds pleasure and excitement in the suffering of his victim. He can best be described as sadistic with an aim of

punishing, hurting, and torturing his victim. His aggression is eroticized.

This individual is likely to have experienced a prolonged period of abuse which could be characterized as either physical, sexual, or emotional. Since his anger is displaced toward females, his abuser stands a high likelihood of being his mother.

#### OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS OF VARIABLES

Independent Variable. Childhood abuses/experiences

1. Physical Abuse
2. Sexual Abuse
3. Psychological Abuse
4. Emotional Trauma

Dependent Variables. The serial rapist using the following rapist typologies.

1. Power-Assertive
2. Power-Reassurance
3. Anger-Retaliatio
4. Anger-Excitation

#### DEFINITION OF VARIABLES

Independent Variables.

1. Physical abuse: for this study, physical abuse is defined as any type of physical contact that is designed to inflict physical pain and/or suffering upon the child. This variable will be subdivided to better understand the relationship between the abuse and the



development of the rapist. It will be subdivided as follows:

a) Physical abuse by father: this will include both the natural father and step-father.

b) Physical abuse by mother: this will include both the natural mother and step-mother.

c) Physical abuse by male authority figure: this includes relatives (e.g., uncles, cousins, etc.), teachers, or anyone who holds a position of authority or trust in the eyes of the child.

d) Physical abuse by female authority figure: this includes relatives (e.g., aunts, cousins, etc.), teachers, or anyone who holds a position of authority or trust in the perceptions of the child.

e) Physical abuse by stranger: this will include anyone who is unknown to the child.

2. Sexual abuse: for this study, sexual abuse is defined as any physical contact of a sexual nature (e.g., fondling, sexual intercourse, etc.) with the child whether the child consented or not. Sexual abuse will be subdivided in the same manner as was physical abuse. It will be divided as follows:

a) Sexual abuse by father: this will include both the natural father and step-father.

b) Sexual abuse by mother: this will include both the natural mother and step-mother.

c) Sexual abuse by male authority figure: this includes relatives (e.g., uncles, cousins, etc.), teachers, or anyone who holds a position of authority in the views of the child.

d) Sexual abuse by female authority figure: this includes relatives (e.g., aunts, cousins, etc.), teachers, or anyone who holds a position of authority in the eyes of the child.

e) Sexual abuse by stranger: this includes anyone who is unknown to the child.

3. Psychological abuse: for this study, psychological abuse is defined as any type of mental stress placed on the child that had the following effects:

a) Lowered self-esteem: this type of psychological abuse left the child with a feeling of no self worth. The child is made to feel as if the lowest in the birth order. They possess a low self-image.

b) Extreme dominance: here the child is raised in a household where every move is dominated by an authority figure. The child is not allowed to make decisions for themselves. The child may at times lash out against authority only to be further suppressed.

c) Guilt: here the child is made to feel guilty about certain feelings or behavior. An example would be when a mother finds her son exploring his own sexuality and in turn makes him think his actions were "dirty" or

shameful. He in turn may begin to blame women for making him have these "dirty" thoughts and seek to punish them. Another example of guilt is were the mother blames the child for causing the break up of the family. This could force the son to assume the role of the father and foster the beginnings of an Oedipus complex that would lead to guilt feelings.

4. Emotional trauma: this could be caused by seeing a father beat one's mother. It can also be caused by seeing a father rape one's mother. For the purpose of this study, emotional trauma is defined as witnessing an event that has left a lasting emotional impression on the child.

5. Duration: the length of the various types of abuse will also need to be examined and operationalized. Duration will be defined as follows:

a) One time incident: an incident which occurred only once.

b) Short duration: this is defined as a period of time less than one year.

c) Protracted duration: this is defined as a period of time exceeding one year.

#### DEPENDENT VARIABLES.

1. The serial rapist: for the purpose of this study, the serial rapist is defined as an individual who has committed 10 or more forcible rapes. Current research allows for accurate typing of the rapist based on a single

offense. However, this study will use the criteria of 10 or more rapes to ensure that a well-defined pattern has been established.

2. Rape type classification: for the purpose of this study, the Groth and associates paradigm of rape typologies will be used.<sup>2</sup> The typologies of rapists are as follows:

a) Power-assertive rapist: a power-assertive rapist regards rape as an expression of his virility and dominance. He feels entitled to take women when he desires. He uses his sexual dominance as a way to keep his women in line.

b) Power-reassurance rapist: a power-reassurance rapist commits the offense in an effort to resolve doubts he may be experiencing about his own sexual adequacy and masculinity.

c) Anger-retaliation rapist: an anger-retaliation rapist commits rape as an expression of hostility and rage towards women. He uses rape as a means to extract revenge with an aim of degrading and humiliating his victim.

d) Anger-excitation rapist: an anger-excitation rapist finds pleasure and excitement in the pain and suffering of his victim. He is often referred to as a sadistic rapist. His aim is to punish, hurt, and torture his victim.

### RESEARCH DESIGN

The research design to be used in this study is the after-only explanatory design. Since the intent of this study is to examine the causal relationships between childhood abuses and rape typologies, the use of this design will allow for the examination of events that have already occurred. This study will be able to meet the requirements for causality as follows:

a) Concomitant variation: if childhood abuses (A) determine the typology of rapist (B), then changes in (A) will cause changes in (B). This meets the requirements for concomitant variation.

b) Sequence in time: if childhood abuses (A) determine the typology of rapist (B), then (A) occurred prior to (B). This meets the requirement for sequence in time.

c). Elimination of other causal factors: this study will make use of control variables in an effort to isolate both the independent and dependent variables. By eliminating possible other causal factor, this will help meet the third requirement for causality.

### UNIT OF ANALYSIS

The unit of analysis used for this research project will be at the individual level. This project will rely on information gain through interviews and documentation analysis.

### SAMPLING STRATEGY

The sampling strategy that will be used for this study will be that of purposive sampling. It is recognized that this type of sampling strategy will limit this studies ability to make generalizations. This is due to the researcher's inability to know whether the samples chosen are really typical of all serial rapist.

This sampling strategy is a nonprobability approach. As such, it is not possible to determine whether all elements of the population will be represented within the study. This will preclude the use of inferential statistics in the analysis of the data.

### Control Variables

#### Identification of Control Variables.

a). Race: the race of the serial rapists will be controlled for in order to insure there is no racial bias or propensity toward any of the various typologies.

b). Social-economic background: the social-economic background of the rapists will also be controlled. This will ensure there is no social or economic propensity towards any one of the various typologies.

c) Education level: the education level of the rapists will also be controlled. This will help to ensure that both the independent and dependent variables have been adequately isolated.

It is necessary to control for these variable in order to ensure that the independent and dependent variables have been properly isolated. This will help satisfy the third requirement for causality. By correcting for these, it assists in the elimination of other causal factors.

There are a number of additional research areas to be explored in the future. Among them are:

- 1) Time and distance studies. Research should be conducted to examine whether or not serial rapists have established territories in which they offend others. This research could be conducted by plotting the time and distance of each offense and the residence of the offender. This research could provide valuable information to the rape investigator.

- 2) Adult sexual behavior. The Hazelwood and Warren study<sup>3</sup> concluded that over seventy percent of the serial rapists in their study had been married a least once. Researchers should examine these relationships to determine to what extent, if any, did the rapists act out any violent fantasies in their relationships. This research could provide valuable data on the developement of the serial rapist.

- 3) Victim selection, type of approach used, and reaction to victim resistance. Researchers should examine the victim selection, type of approach used, and reaction to victim resistance utilizing and comparing the various

typologies of rapists. This research could provide information about certain propensities of the various types of rapists may have. It could also provide valuable information that might assist women to avoid becoming a victim of rape.

### CONCLUSION

A rape occurs in this country almost every five minutes.<sup>4</sup> Given this statement, it does not take a mathematician or a criminal justice expert to determine the magnitude of this problem. Every five minutes an individual's life is dramatically altered in an irreversible manner.

According to Gene Able, of the rapists who go to jail, "recidivism rates five years after release indicate that 35 percent to 70 percent have recommitted the crime."<sup>5</sup> If these rates are accurate, than repeat offenders accounted for 35,151 to 70,303 of the 100,433 rapes which were reported in 1990. In essence this means our present system of handling sex criminals is failing and innocent members of our society are paying the price for its failure.

Back in 1977, Groth and Burgess cited the need to add rape to the American Psychiatric Association's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health (DSM-II).<sup>6</sup> As they point out, at this time a convicted rapist goes to prison and may or may not receive proper treatment. If rape was recognized as a sexual deviation, it might "help to



encourage more prophylactic disposition by criminal justice agencies and more offender referrals to mental health agencies as an intrinsic aspect of the rapists' rehabilitation."<sup>7</sup>

Even individuals who feel society has no obligation to rehabilitate must agree our present system is failing. We have only three solutions. First, spend the funds and time necessary for treatment and rehabilitation of the sex offender. Second, utilize the funds to keep them incarcerated where they can offend no more, and lastly, do nothing at all and allow innocent individuals to be victimized by repeat sex offenders. It is time we found the last option unacceptable and began to explore the first two more seriously.

Until a solution is found, researchers within this area of study should continue to seek answers for the many questions which still exist. It is only through the establishment of causal relationships that possible prevention and/or treatment solutions can be developed.

### Notes

- 1 A. Nicholas Groth et al., "Rape: Power, Anger, and Sexuality," American Journal of Psychiatry 134, no. 11 (Nov. 1977): 1239-1243.
- 2 Ibid.
- 3 Robert R. Hazelwood and Janet Warren, "The Serial Rapist: His Characteristics and Victims (Part One)," The FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin 58, no. 1 (1989): 14.
- 4 U.S. Congress, Senate, Committee on the Judiciary, Violence Against Women: The Increase of Rape in America 1990, hearing, 102nd Cong., 1st sess., 21 March 1991 (Washington: GPO, 1991), 2-3.
- 5 Gene G. Abel, "Treatment Of Sexual Aggressives," Criminal Justice and Behavior 5, no. 4 (Dec. 1978): 291.
- 6 A. Nicholas Groth and Ann Wolbert Burgess, "Rape: A Sexual Deviation," American Journal of Orthopsychiatry 47, no.3 (Jul. 1977): 400-406.
- 7 Ibid., 406.

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